available at hospitals in view of the increasing AIDS threat;

(b) if so, the details of the steps Govcrnmeni [impose to take in this regard;

(c) whether the professional donors of the blood arc suspected to be the highly AIDS infected;

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to lake to check their blood before accepting by hospitals; and

(e) whether any legislation is likely to be brought in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The Government have already taken up a programme in hand to ensure that safe and infection-free blood is used for transfusion purposes. HIV testing facilities have been established in 180 centres and linkages have been provided to all the blood banks to get the blood samples tested in such centres. Simple and rapid test kits are being provided in 372 District Centres which are basically transfusion centres. In addition, the rules framed under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act have been made more stringent and the inspection machinery has been strengthened to facilitate strict compliance of the mandatory requirements.

(c) It is true that professional donors of blood are likely to be hosts of several blood-transmissible infections, including HIV.

(d) The mandatory requirement of testing every unit of blood before it is used for transfusion and the strengthening of the inspection machinery are the two basic steps taken by the Government in this respect.

(e) The rules framed under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act are mandatory and do provide the statutory support to the measures taken up in hand.

Replacement of Original Eye Cases Registered at National Eye Bank of the R. P. Centre

2820. SHRI W. KULABIDHU SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of cases categorised as Top Priority' and 'General Priority' cases at the National Eye Bank of the R. P. Centre at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for replacement of original eyes alongwith the names of the patients (children) registered therein;

(b) what is Ihe number of cases under the category 'Top Priority'cases who have been provided with original eyes during the year 1992-93 alongwith the number of those who are still in the waiting list;

(c) whether Government propose to accord top most priority to very serious cases registered with the R. P. Centre of the AIIMS and if so, by when original eyes would be replaced in respect of each of such cases;

(d) what is the main reasons for non-availability of eyes in the Centre; and

(e) if the answer to part (c) and (d) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to refer such cases to private Hospitals in order to guard better the interests of serious cases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The Dr. R. P. Centre of All India Institute of Medical Sciences has reported that in August, 1993 the total number of cases registered for replacement of original eyes are as under:

Top Priority	—	2171 (Children *301)*
Priority	—	1750 (Children 98)

(b) In the year 1992-93,160 corneal graftings were done in the Top Priority category.

(c) Priorily is already being assigned but no time limit can be fixed in view of the shortage in the availability of eyes.

(d) and (e) Although socio-cultural factors including misbeliefs effect the programme, efforts are being made to enthuse the public towards donating eyes. Grant-in-aid is also being provided to the Voluntary Sector to establish eye banks. Referral and private hospitals *are,* however, not covered by the present Government policy.

Family Welfare Centres in the Country

2821. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased *to state :*

(a) " the number of family welfare centres functioning all over the country. State-wise;

(b) the number of sub-centres functioning all over the country, State-wise;

(c) the number of family bureau/centres in the country. State-wise;

(d) whether any proposal to close down any family welfare centre, sub-centre, district family welfare centre, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) what are the reasons behind this decision;

(0 whether any study has been conducted to find out impact of the decision on the national economy in the long run; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) A statement is annexed *(See* below).

(d) No Sir.

(c) to (g) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of RFW-Cs	No. of Sub-Centres	No. of City/ Distt. FW Bureau
1.	Andhra Pradesh	420	7894	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	..	178	4
3.	Assam	146	5110	1
4.	Bihar	587	14799	31
5.	Goa	13	173	..
6.	Gujarat	251	7284	19
7.	Haryana	89	2299	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	77	1851	10
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	82	1780	8
10.	Karnataka	269	7793	20
11.	Kerala	163	5094	14
12.	Madhya Pradesh	460	11910	46
13.	Maharashtra	428	9377	37
14.	Manipur	31	420	8
15.	Meghalaya	23	296	5
16.	Mizoram	14	244	1
17.	Nagaland	7	201	3
18.	Orissa	314	5426	13
19.	Punjab	129	2964	12
20.	Rajasthan	232	8096	28
21.	Sikkim	15	142	1
22.	Tamil Nadu	383	8681	22
23.	Tripura	35	534	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	907	20153	60
25.	West Bengal	335	8126	18
26.	A & N Islands	..	96	1
27.	Chandigarh	1	12	1
28.	D & N Haveli	2	34	..
29.	Daman & Diu	2	19	1
30.	Delhi	8	42	..
31.	Lakshadweep	..	14	..
32.	Pondicherry	12	76	..
33.	Central Sector	..	..	..
	TOTAL :	5435	131118	416

Increase in Stipend to Assistant Ambulance Officers

2822. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI': Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistant Ambulance Officers of Second Batch of Centralised accident Trauma service run by Delhi Administration are being paid rupees 1000 as stipend for last three years;

(b) if *so,* whether it is also a fact that these officers have been assured that after two years they will be given regular scale and pay; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not giving the regular scale of pay to these officers ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) It has been reported by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi that offer of appointment to the second batch of Assistant Junior Ambulance Officers was made on 22-6-92 and as per the terms of appointment they are to be paid stipend at the rate of Rs. 1,000 for six months from the date of joining. Since all the officers have completed six months, they have become entitled for